1:Dobrizhoffer M-8 (ca. 1760) 1822
514 Abipon 514

CHAPTER XII.

OF THE MAGISTRATES, CAPTAINS, CACIQUES, &c. OF THE ABIPONES, AND OF THEIR FORMS OF GOVERNMENT.

622 [643] THE Abipones do not acknowledge any prince who reigns with supreme power over the whole nation. They are divided into hordes, each of which is headed by a man, whom the Spaniards call capitan, or cacique, the Peruvians curáca, the Guaranies aba rubicha, and the Abipones nelafeyrât, or capitâ. This word capitan 622 sounds very grand in the ears of the Americans. 554 They think they are using a very honourable title when they call the God, or King of the Spaniards, *capitan latènc*, or *capitan guazù*, the great captain. By this word, indeed, they mean to designate not only supreme power, and eminent dignity, but also every kind of nobility. Sometimes miserable looking old women, wretchedly clothed, and rich only in wrinkles, to prevent us from thinking them of low birth, will say *aym capitâ*, I am a captain, I am noble. I was astonished at hearing the savages buried in the woods of Mbaeverà, and cut off from all intercourse with the Spaniards, address their caciques by the names of Capitâ